



United Way Mission: "To improve lives by uniting the caring power of our community."

Career Opportunity

Director, School Success

United Way of Central Iowa is seeking a Director of School Success to lead, manage and facilitate initiatives related to the Community Impact area of education to advance the goal of more high school students graduating on time. The UWCI Community Impact agenda involves identifying community conditions and bringing community partners together to create solutions in areas of education, income and health. With the focus on youth and education, this position will influence increased awareness of issues in the community and to gain a shared understanding of the extent and initiatives that lead to school success. The Director will report to the Vice President of Community Impact and work in conjunction with staff leads in the Community Impact areas. Partners include fellow staff, board members, community partners in education and partners in community based organizations.

This position will require a strong collaborative and integrated approach toward the work both internally and externally to reach the goal. The role also requires skills in relationship building and management; employing strategic thinking and tactical management of the work; and resource development. Solid knowledge of local education, school system and human service systems is necessary. A proven ability to reach consensus and resolution between individuals and groups is necessary as well. This is a great opportunity to help meet the organization's mission "to improve lives by uniting the caring power of our community."

Essential Accountabilities

- Leads and facilitates youth and School Success initiatives, which includes preparation of reports and communications involving research, analysis, writing and presentations that align with United Way's strategic direction, as it relates to education and attainment of the 2020 goals.
- Coordinates and supports community collaborations, namely the Youth Development Partnership, in planning and priority setting.
- Manages programs and projects related to School Success and ensures initiatives provide measurable outcomes that positively impact the youth and community and align with organizational goals.
- Identifies potential grant funding opportunities on a local, state and national level that will increase graduation rates and accelerate community-level change for youth.
- Directs and coordinates School Success investments in conjunction with United Way team members and standards.
- Collaborates with United Way's Emerging Leaders Initiative through product development (for investment opportunities), speaker cultivation and alignment with goals.
- Oversees and manages the work and requirements of contractors and vendors.
- Acts as the subject matter expert for internal and external inquiries and issues related to UWCI's education impact agenda (School Success focused) priorities.
- Participates as a member of collaborative, creative team(s) to support the initiatives and activities of Community Impact programming. This includes other UWCI staff and departments (Marketing, Volunteer Engagement, Resource Development.)
- Aligns behavior and work with the UWCI Code of Ethics and Organizational Values.

Qualifications

- College degree in education, human services or related field. Master's degree desirable.
- Five to eight years experience in education or human service field.
- Solid knowledge of local education, school system and human service systems
- Experience with computers and Microsoft Office applications; internet literate.
- Experience in advocacy and knowledge of the legislative process.

- Experience with community planning and community organization.
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, listening, writing and facilitation skills.
- The ability to establish, build and maintain good rapport and relationships with clients, partners and coworkers.

UWCI offers competitive pay and a full benefits package for this full time position. To apply, please send cover letter and resume to dingebretsen@unitedwaydm.org. Deadline for application is **December 30, 2009**.

United Way of Central Iowa is an equal opportunity employer and employment practices are implemented without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religious beliefs, age, disability, sexual orientation, citizenship status, military status or any other basis protected by federal, state or local fair employment practice laws.

Visit our website at www.unitedwaydm.org for more information about our organization.

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